DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF PORTO RICO
Office of the Commissioner
San Juan

Circular Letter No. 209

December 10, 1904.

To Superintendents.

Gentlemen:-

In my circular letter No. 193, I requested the return of the new Form Q reports with recommendations in regard to extending licenses of teachers. In this letter, it was stated that licenses could be extended for one, two or three years. Your recommendations were made in accordance with this suggestion.

I have the honor to advise you that I have received from the Attorney General of Porto Rico an official opinion to the effect that the law of 1904 as printed on Page 10 of the School Laws and authorizing the renewal of certificates for period of three years and two years respectively is no longer in force. The language of Section 2 is that the renewal may take place at the end of the current school year and it is the opinion of the Attorney General that the phrase "current school year" limited the application of the law to the scholastic year then current, that is to say, 1903-04.

Under these circumstances, the Department is not authorized by law to extend the licenses for a longer period than one year, and this must be the term of all new certificates irrespective of your recommendations.

I am sending you this opinion in advance of the certificates in order that you may be advised of the reasons

why your recommendations appear to have been undeaded. If by any chance any of your recommendations have become known to the teachers, you will be in a position to explain the matter.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) Roland P. Falkner
Commissioner of Education